

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1           1.       A method for exchanging information with a process using a window display  
2 port, the method comprising:  
3                   presenting information related to a first process in a window that is resizable  
4 within a presentation space of a monitor;  
5                   selecting a second process;  
6                   opening a display port in a portion of the window;  
7                   presenting information related to the second process in the display port; and  
8                   linking the display port to the window within the presentation space of the  
9 monitor.

1           2.       The method of claim 1, comprising:  
2                   associating an input focus with the window, wherein the first process can receive  
3 information from a user interface; and  
4                   associating the input focus with the display port, wherein the second process can  
5 receive information from the user interface.

1           3.       The method of claim 2, comprising:  
2                   associating the input focus with only one of the window and the display port at a  
3 time.

1           4.       The method of claim 3, comprising:  
2                   switching the input focus between the window and the display port.

1           5.       The method of claim 3, comprising:  
2                   switching the input focus to the display port when opening the display port in the  
3   portion of the window.

1           6.       The method of claim 1, comprising:  
2                   swapping the information presented in the display port related to the second  
3   process with the information presented in the window related to the first process.

1           7.       The method of claim 6, comprising:  
2                   associating an input focus with the window when swapping the information  
3   presented in the display port with the information presented in the window, wherein the second  
4   process can receive information from a user interface.

1           8.       The method of claim 1, comprising:  
2                   hiding the presenting of information related to the second process and the display  
3   port while maintaining an execution of the second process.

1           9.       The method of claim 8, wherein the hiding occurs when hiding the presenting of  
2   information related to the first process and the window while maintaining an execution of the  
3   first process.

1           10.      The method of claim 1, comprising:  
2                   closing the display port; and  
3                   halting an execution of the second process.

1           11.     The method of claim 1, comprising:  
2                     closing the display port while maintaining an execution of the second process  
3     when closing the window and halting an execution of the first process;  
4                     opening a second window that is resizable within the presentation space of the  
5     monitor; and  
6                     presenting information related to the second process in the second window.

1           12.     The method of claim 1, comprising:  
2                     adding the second process to a list of selected processes; and  
3                     including the list of selected processes as selectable entries in a drop-down menu  
4     associated with the window.

1           13.     The method of claim 1, wherein the selecting comprises:  
2                     browsing a repository of available processes including the second process.

1           14.     The method of claim 1, wherein the linking comprises:  
2                     resizing the display port an amount proportional to an amount the window  
3     changes when the window is resized.

1           15.     The method of claim 1, wherein the linking comprises:  
2                     maintaining a relative positioning of the display port within the window when  
3     repositioning the window within the presentation space of the monitor.

1           16.     The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second processes are associated with  
2     respective application programs.

1           17.     A system for exchanging information with a process using a window display port,  
2     the system comprising:

3                     a monitor having a presentation space; and

4                     a processor operatively coupled to the monitor, the processor including:

5                         logic configured to present information related to a first process in a  
6     window that is resizable within a presentation space of a monitor;

7                         logic configured to select a second process;

8                         logic configured to open a display port in a portion of the window;

9                         logic configured to present information related to the second process in the  
10    display port; and

11                        logic configured to link the display port to the window within the  
12    presentation space of the monitor.

1           18.     The system of claim 17, comprising:

2                     a user interface operatively coupled to the processor;

3                     wherein the processor includes:

4                         logic configured to associate an input focus with the window, wherein the  
5     first process can receive information from the user interface; and

6                         logic configured to associate the input focus with the display port, wherein  
7     the second process can receive information from the user interface.

1           19.     The system of claim 18, wherein the processor comprises:  
2                     logic configured to associate the input focus with only one of the window and the  
3 display port at a time.

1           20.     The system of claim 19, wherein the processor comprises:  
2                     logic configured to switch the input focus between the window and the display  
3 port.

1           21.     The system of claim 19, wherein the processor comprises:  
2                     logic configured to switch the input focus to the display port when opening the  
3 display port in the portion of the window.

1           22.     The system of claim 17, wherein the processor comprises:  
2                     logic configured to swap the information presented in the display port related to  
3 the second process with the information presented in the window related to the first process.

1           23.     The system of claim 22, wherein the processor comprises:  
2                     logic configured to associate an input focus with the window when swapping the  
3 information presented in the display port with the information presented in the window, wherein  
4 the second process can receive information from a user interface.

1           24.     The system of claim 23, wherein the logic configured to swap the information is  
2 responsive to an output of a pointing device included in the user interface.

1           25.     The system of claim 17, wherein the processor comprises:  
2                     logic configured to hide the presenting of information related to the second  
3 process and the display port while maintaining an execution of the second process.

1           26.     The system of claim 25, wherein the logic configured to hide is responsive to an  
2 activation of a control button associated with the window.

1           27.     The system of claim 25, wherein the logic configured to hide is responsive to a  
2 hiding of the presenting of information related to the first process and the window while  
3 maintaining an execution of the first process.

1           28.     The system of claim 17, wherein the processor comprises:  
2                     logic configured to close the display port; and  
3                     logic configured to halt an execution of the second process.

1           29.     The system of claim 28, wherein the logic configured to close the display port is  
2 responsive to a combined output of a keyboard and a pointing device included in a user interface.

1           30.     The system of claim 17, wherein the processor comprises:  
2                     logic configured to close the display port while maintaining an execution of the  
3 second process;  
4                     logic configured to open a second window that is resizable within the presentation  
5 space of the monitor; and

6 logic configured to present information related to the second process in the second  
7 window.

1 31. The system of claim 30, wherein the logic configured to close the display port is  
2 responsive to a closing of the window and a halting of an execution of the first process.

1 32. The system of claim 17, wherein the processor comprises:  
2 logic configured to add the second process to a list of selected processes; and  
3 logic configured to include the list of selected processes as selectable entries in a  
4 drop-down menu associated with the window.

1 33. The system of claim 32, wherein the logic configured to select comprises:  
2 logic configured to browse a repository of available processes including the  
3 second process.

1 34. The system of claim 33, wherein the logic configured to browse is responsive to a  
2 selection of an entry in the drop-down menu.

1 35. The system of claim 17, wherein the logic configured to link comprises:  
2 logic configured to resize the display port an amount proportional to an amount  
3 the window changes when the window is resized.

1           36.     The system of claim 17, wherein the logic configured to link comprises:  
2                     logic configured to maintain a relative positioning of the display port within the  
3 window when repositioning the window within the presentation space of the monitor.

1           37.     The system of claim 17, wherein the first and second processes are associated  
2 with respective application programs that can be executed using the processor.

1           38.     A computer readable medium containing a computer program for exchanging  
2 information with a process using a window display port, wherein the computer program  
3 comprises executable instructions for:

4                     presenting information related to a first process in a window that is resizable  
5 within a presentation space of a monitor;

6                     selecting a second process;

7                     opening a display port in a portion of the window;

8                     presenting information related to the second process in the display port; and

9                     linking the display port to the window within the presentation space of the  
10 monitor.

1           39.     The computer readable medium claim 38, wherein the computer program  
2 comprises executable instructions for:

3                     associating an input focus with the window, wherein the first process can receive  
4 information from a user interface; and

5                     associating the input focus with the display port, wherein the second process can  
6 receive information from the user interface.



1           40.     The computer readable medium claim 38, wherein the computer program  
2 comprises executable instructions for:  
3                   swapping the information presented in the display port related to the second  
4 process with the information presented in the window related to the first process.

1           41.     The computer readable medium claim 40, wherein the computer program  
2 comprises executable instructions for:  
3                   associating an input focus with the window when swapping the information  
4 presented in the display port with the information presented in the window, wherein the second  
5 process can receive information from a user interface.

1           42.     The computer readable medium claim 38, wherein the computer program  
2 comprises executable instructions for:  
3                   hiding the presenting of information related to the second process and the display  
4 port while maintaining an execution of the second process.

1           43.     The computer readable medium claim 38, wherein the computer program  
2 comprises executable instructions for:  
3                   adding the second process to a list of selected processes; and  
4                   including the list of selected processes as selectable entries in a drop-down menu  
5 associated with the window.

1           44.     The computer readable medium claim 38, wherein in linking, the computer  
2 program comprises executable instructions for:  
3                   maintaining a relative positioning of the display port within the window when  
4 repositioning the window within the presentation space of the monitor.

1           45.     A system for exchanging information with a process using a window display port,  
2 the system comprising:  
3                   a monitor having a presentation space;  
4                   means for presenting information related to a first process in a window that is  
5 resizable within the presentation space of the monitor;  
6                   means for selecting a second process;  
7                   means for opening a display port in a portion of the window;  
8                   means for presenting information related to the second process in the display port;  
9 and  
10                  means for linking the display port to the window within the presentation space of  
11 the monitor.

1           46.     The system of claim 45, comprising:  
2                   means for associating an input focus with the window, wherein the first process  
3 can receive information from a user interface; and  
4                   means for associating the input focus with the display port, wherein the second  
5 process can receive information from the user interface.

1           47.     The system of claim 45, comprising:  
2                   means for swapping the information presented in the display port related to the  
3 second process with the information presented in the window related to the first process.

1           48.     The system of claim 47, comprising:  
2                   means for associating an input focus with the window when swapping the  
3 information presented in the display port with the information presented in the window, wherein  
4 the second process can receive information from a user interface.

1           49.     The system of claim 45, comprising:  
2                   means for hiding the presenting of information related to the second process and  
3 the display port while maintaining an execution of the second process.

1           50.     The system of claim 45, comprising:  
2                   means for maintaining a relative positioning of the display port within the window  
3 when repositioning the window within the presentation space of the monitor.